

News Release



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California State Railroad Museum To Showcase Dramatic *Call of Trains* Photo Exhibit *Special Photo Exhibit on Display February 6 - August 16, 2009*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – *The Call of Trains: Railroad Photographs* by Jim Shaughnessy is coming soon to the California State Railroad Museum, located in Old Sacramento State Historic Park. With nearly 30 stunning locomotive-related photographs on display, the exhibit artfully showcases remarkable night photography and dramatic images of railroad workers, shops and roundhouses taken by the highly respected rail photographer Jim Shaughnessy. With a focus on images from the northeastern United States and Canada, the moving exhibit documents early steam locomotives and those from the visually intense steam-to-diesel transition.

Revered among his colleagues, Shaughnessy started out in the late 1940s photographing steam locomotives in his hometown of Troy, New York and, amazingly, is still taking photographs today. In 1987, Shaughnessy was honored with a “Lifetime Achievement Award for Photography” by the prestigious Railway & Locomotive Historical Society. Along with rail authority and photo historian Jeff Brouws, Shaughnessy went on to collaborate on a recently-released book of the same name that was published in November 2008.

As an exciting activity to coincide with the photograph exhibit, the esteemed photographer will be on-site at the California State Railroad Museum on Sunday, March 15 where he will give a special presentation and sign copies of his book *The Call of Trains: Railroad Photographs* by Jim Shaughnessy which are also available for purchase in the Museum Store.

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The Call of Trains photography exhibit was produced in collaboration with the Center for Railroad Photography and Art (www.railphoto-art.org) and will be on display at the California State Railroad Museum through August 16, 2009. More information about *The Call of Trains* and other museum related events, exhibits and activities is available at www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org.

Operated by California State Parks with assistance from the nonprofit CSRM Foundation, the California State Railroad Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Widely regarded as North America's finest and most-visited railroad museum, the complex of facilities includes the 100,000-sq. ft. Railroad History Museum plus the reconstructed Central Pacific Railroad Passenger Station and Freight Depot, 1849 Eagle Theatre, and Big Four and Dingley Spice Mill buildings in Old Sacramento. 24-hour info: (916) 445-6645 or www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org

*The Center for Railroad Photography & Art (www.railphoto-art.org) is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to the preservation and presentation of significant images of railroading. It publishes a journal, *Railroad Heritage*, hosts a web portal for railroad images, (www.railroadheritage.org), as well as hosts conferences on the subject. The Center collaborates with other institutions and scholars to produce public programs, promoting an appreciation for railroading's place in America's visual history and culture.*